

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Serial Number: 10/822,604

Filing Date: April 12, 2004

Title: ELECTRODE AND CONDUCTOR INTERCONNECT AND METHOD THEREFOR

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REMARKS

Claims 44, 48, 51, 58 and 65 are amended; no claims are cancelled or added.

Accordingly, claims 44-68 remain pending.

Restriction Requirement

In the Restriction Requirement mailed December 9, 2008, the Examiner has restricted the claims to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. 121:

- I. Claims 44-54 and 58-59, drawn to a lead assembly, classified in class 607, subclass 122.
- II. Claims 55-57 and 60-68, drawn to a lead assembly, classified in class 600, subclass 373.

Provisional Election

Applicants provisionally elect without traverse, Group II, claims 55-57 and 60-68.

Applicant has amended the dependency of claim 58 from claim 44 to claim 55. Applicant respectfully submits at least claims 58 and 59 (claim 59 depends from claim 58) should thereby also be included in elected Group II.

Remarks

In restricting between Groups I and II, the Office Action found Groups I and II distinct from each other because, “the combination as claimed does not require the particulars of the subcombination as claimed because the combination does not require a [reflow] weld. The subcombination has separate utility such as a lead assembly with a friction fit connection.” (See Restriction Requirement, page 2). Accordingly, Applicant has amended claim 44 to include a reflow weld, thereby overcoming the stated basis for restricting between Groups I and II. Claims 44-54 should thereby be included in elected Group II.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the restriction between Groups I and II, withdrawal of this restriction, and examination of the claims of Group I along with the claims of provisionally elected Group II.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' attorney at (612) 371-2117 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

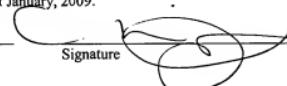
If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

SCHWEGMAN, LUNDBERG & WOESSNER, P.A.
P.O. Box 2938
Minneapolis, MN 55402
(612) 371-2117

Date 1/9/2009 By 
Thomas C. Obermark
Reg. No. 55,506

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 9 day of January, 2009.

Name Nicole Jack 
Signature